

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

This application claims the benefit of provisional application number 60/239,484, filed October 11, 2000, entitled COMPUTATION IN NETWORK DEVICES, and is related to application serial numbers ____/____ (7000 048), filed _____, 09/736,692, filed December 13, 2000, entitled HIGH-SPEED COMPUTATION IN NETWORK DEVICES and ____/____ (7000 046), filed _____, 09/736,674, filed December 13, 2000, entitled SERVICE BASED ROUTING, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 31 with the following rewritten paragraph:

____ The requisite application level processing may be distributed among multiple routing nodes and paths to make sure that sufficient resources are available and delivery does not negatively affect other traffic. The distribution of the processing is preferably based on available resources and perhaps on other network conditions bearing on the processing and routing performance for the particular traffic flow, the network in general, or a combination thereof.